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**January 15, 2004**

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Louis-Philippe Vézina et al.  
Serial No.: 09/678,303  
Filing date: October 3, 2000  
Title: PROMOTER FOR REGULATING EXPRESSION OF FOREIGN  
GENES  
Examiner: Helmer, Georgia L. Tel.: (571) 272-0796  
SPE : Nelson, Amy Tel.: (703) 306-3218  
Group Art Unit: 1638  
Attorney Docket: 14149-4US PM/MG/al  
Agent of Applicants: Isabelle CHABOT Tel.: (418) 640-5174

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450  
U.S.A.

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Official Communication of December 18, 2003, containing a Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Applicants apologize for the error in formatting the last reply of October 23, 2003 to the final office action of June 3, 2003. The present amendment presents the same content as our reply of October 23, 2003 but the amendment format is hereby corrected.